Establishment of new navodaya Vidyalayas

1359. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal has been cleared to establish 28 more Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and the number of Navodaya Vidyalayas to be opened/allotted to North Eastern Region; and

(c) the number of Navodaya schools to be opened in Assam and their location?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government has approved a proposal for opening of 28 new Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs) in the country at a total expenditure of Rs. 388.08 crore. New JNVs have been sanctioned in 7 districts in North Eastern Region, of which 3 districts are in Assam *i.e.* Baksa, North Cachar Hills and Dhubri. However, the JNV at Dhubri has not been made functional for want of temporary accommodation.

Programmes for literacy

1360. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of various programmes that Government have undertaken to speard literacy and curb drop-outs in different States of the country;

(b) the positive results derived during the years 2004-05 and 2005-06; and

(c) what support Government have decided to give to the families where poverty is the prime reason for drop-outs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The names of various programmes being implemented by the Government to spread literacy and curb drop-outs are as follows:—

(i) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

(ii) Mid-Day Meal Scheme